



Oregon Interagency Incident Management Team 4

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Canyon Creek Complex Update, Sept. 9, 2015

Weather: Hot and dry conditions will continue through Saturday. Today's highs will be 70-77 degrees on ridgetops and 79-87 degrees in the valleys. Minimum humidity 10 to 20 percent. Winds will be 3-7 mph with gusts to 15 mph.

On the Fire

- The perimeter of the fire has not changed for several days.
- Due to warm and dry conditions continuing into Saturday, **flare-ups with visible smoke** are likely in the interior of the fire. Fire managers emphasize that **containment lines are secure on the north, west and south flanks** where firefighters will continue patrolling and repair.
- On the east flank, firefighters continue to secure line. In the wilderness, crews are using **minimal impact suppression tactics** (MIST). This work is part of the strategy to contain the fire and protect wilderness areas.
- A **Burned Area Emergency Response** (BAER) Team will begin a field assessment of the area today. They will identify areas of potential water runoff, erosion risk and other threats to critical values. The 15-member team includes hydrologists, biologists, and experts in soils, archaeology, invasive plants, field assessments and information.

Canyon Creek Complex Facts

Type, cause, date started: This wildfire began August 12, 2015. Cause was lightning.

Location: One mile south of the towns of John Day and Canyon Creek.

Fuels: Timber, brush and grass understory and medium density logging slash.

Structures Threatened: 100, **Damaged:** 50, **Destroyed:** 43

Size: 110,410 acres. **Containment:** 85%

Personnel: 562 **Resources:** 2 Type 1 crews, 12 Type 2 crews, 4 helicopters, 18 engines, 6 dozers, 9 water tenders, 3 skidgines. Due to increased containment, several resources will be released today.

Open and Closed

- The Grant County Sheriff's Office **lifted all evacuation levels**.
- **Malheur National Forest** changed restrictions to IFPL III and Public Use Restrictions B regulating campfires, use of combustion engines, chainsaws, smoking and off-road and off-trail vehicle travel.
- Forest area and road closures are being reviewed daily. The closure was removed from some areas east of the fire and outside of the wilderness. Closures remain in effect in the fire area for firefighter and public safety.
- **Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT):** Highway 395 is open for two-way travel. A pilot car may be on site to lead traffic in specific areas between 6 am and 4:30 pm.
- **Grant County Sheriff's Office** reminds people to be respectful of private property and to remain on the road unless invited. Trespassing is punishable by law and violators will be prosecuted.

For More Information

Inciweb: <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4495/>

Facebook: www.facebook.com/canyoncreekfireoregon and www.facebook.com/malheurnationalforest

Malheur National Forest Website: www.fs.usda.gov/malheur/

Air Quality Index: <http://oregonsmoke.blogspot.com/>

Malheur Hunting Information: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/malheur/news-events/?cid=STELPRD3852316>